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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

HONORING RICHARD MACRAVEY OF COLORADO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my mentor and close friend, Mr. Richard D. "Dick" MacRavey. After 26 years of service as the Secretary and Executive Director of the Colorado Water Congress, Dick is announcing his retirement. Throughout his tenure, Dick helped enact a multitude of important legislation to protect water resources throughout Colorado. As Executive Director, Dick saw 350 of the 419 Colorado Water Congress supported bills enacted into law. In addition, only one of the 123 bills opposed by the Colorado Water Congress became law. This impressive record demonstrates Dick's effective leadership and dedication to protecting Colorado's water.

During my time in the Colorado State Legislature, Dick took me under his wing and taught me a great deal about water legislation. As a farmer and lifelong resident of the San Luis Valley, I understand the importance of water. This precious resource is our lifeblood and essential to maintaining our way of life. Dick understood the needs of everyone—from farmers like me in rural Colorado to those in towns like Aspen, Carbondale, and Telluride and cities like Denver, Aurora, and Colorado Springs. With his guidance, I

helped craft a piece of legislation, "The Basin of Origin Protection," which I am very proud of. Although this bill was never enacted into law, the lessons that Dick taught me during this experience were invaluable. I will always consider Dick a great mentor and a friend.

Dick's dedication to protecting water and serving Colorado started long before his involvement with the Colorado Water Congress. He served 3 years as Executive Director to the Larimer-Weld Council of Governments and 7 years as Executive Director of the Colorado Municipal League. While at Larimer-Weld COG, Dick developed and guided the early stages of the Larimer-Weld "208" Water Quality Management Planning effort. In 1970, Dick served as chairman of the Colorado Good Government Committee for the promotion of the State constitutional amendments 1, Governors Cabinet; 2, State Civil Service Reorganization; and 3, Local Government Modernization. All three amendments were approved overwhelmingly by the people of Colorado. In addition, Dick was involved in six other statewide initiative campaigns and was successful in all six campaigns.

In 1988, Dick was appointed to Colorado Vision 2000, and in 1989, he was appointed to become part of the 16-member Legislative Council Subcommittee on Long-Range Planning for State Government. From 1969 to 1971, Dick served on the National League of Cities Board of Directors. He also served as a member of the Boards for the Colorado Water PAC and the Colorado Water Education Foundation. Dick is a member of the American Society of Association Executives, Colorado Society of Association Executives, American Water Works Association, and International City Management Association. Dick is one of Colorado's great leaders. He has been involved in many aspects of Colorado life and has worked

tirelessly to protect our current and future generations.

However, it is his tireless fight for water that has been most inspiring to me. In 1999, Dick was named the 19th recipient of the Wayne N. Aspinall Water Leader of the Year award. This is a prestigious award in Colorado named after a former Congressman of the district I currently represent. Mr. Aspinall was a water champion for Colorado and instrumental in helping to ensure that Colorado residents have access to a safe water supply.

After I was elected to the U.S. House in 2004, Dick gave me a biography entitled "Wayne Aspinall: Mr. Chairman." On the inside cover he wrote me an inspirational and encouraging message. It read:

To John Salazar. This book is about one of Colorado's great Members of Congress. You will some day also rank as one of the great members from Colorado. I have no doubts about your future achievement. Your friend, Dick MacRavey. January 27, 2005.

Madam Speaker, this note touched my heart, and I keep this book with me in my congressional office. While serving in Congress, I will continue to fight for Colorado's water, and I hope that my efforts will make Dick MacRavey proud.

I wish Dick well in his retirement, and I want him to know he will always have a special place in my heart.

HOPE FOR VISION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. RICHARDSON). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary work of Hope for Vision, a wonderful organization in my congressional district, as well as their two newest goodwill ambassadors, Alex and Stacy Campos. Both Hope for Vision,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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